



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
24 September 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session

Agenda item 25

United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

Afghanistan, Algeria, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Yemen: draft resolution

Draft global agenda for dialogue among civilizations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/22 of 4 November 1998, 54/113 of 10 December 1999 and 55/23 of 13 November 2000 entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations",

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which are, inter alia, to develop friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace and to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Underlining that all Members have undertaken to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State or to act in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,



Reaffirming their commitment to the fulfilment of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations and as a source of inspiration for the further promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, political, social, economic, civil and cultural, including the right to development,

Underlining that all civilizations celebrate the unity and diversity of humankind and are enriched and have evolved through dialogue with other civilizations and that, despite obstacles of intolerance and aggression, there has been constructive interaction throughout history among various civilizations,

Emphasizing that a common humanity unites all civilizations and allows for the celebration of the variegated splendour of the highest attainments of their diversity, and reaffirming that the achievements of civilization constitute the collective heritage of humankind,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000, which considers, inter alia, that tolerance is one of the fundamental values essential to international relations in the twenty-first century and that it should include the active promotion of a culture of peace and dialogue among civilizations, with human beings respecting one another in all their diversity of belief, culture and language, neither fearing nor repressing differences within and between societies but cherishing them as a precious asset of humanity,

Noting that globalization brings greater interrelatedness among peoples and increased interaction among cultures and civilizations, and encouraged by the fact that the celebration of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations at the beginning of the twenty-first century has underscored that globalization is not only an economic, financial and technological process, which could offer great benefit, but that it also presents the challenge of preserving and celebrating the rich intellectual and cultural diversity of humankind and of civilization,

Bearing in mind the valuable contribution that dialogue among civilizations can make to an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

Recognizing that human rights and fundamental freedoms derive from the dignity and worth inherent in the human person and are thus universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the human person is the central subject of human rights and fundamental freedoms and consequently should be the principal beneficiary and should participate actively in the realization of these rights and freedoms,

Reaffirming that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Emphasizing that promotion and protection of freedom of opinion and expression and a collective commitment to listen to and learn from each other and to respect cultural heritage and diversity are essential for dialogue, progress and human advancement,

Underlining the fact that tolerance and respect for diversity and universal promotion and protection of human rights are mutually supportive, and recognizing

that tolerance and respect for diversity effectively promote and are supported by, inter alia, the empowerment of women,

Recalling its resolution 55/254 of 31 May 2001, which calls upon all States to exert their utmost efforts to ensure that religious sites are fully respected and protected,

Emphasizing the need to acknowledge and respect the richness of all civilizations and to seek common ground among civilizations in order to comprehensively address common challenges facing humanity,

Welcoming the endeavours of Governments, international organizations, civil society organizations and countless individuals to enhance understanding through constructive dialogue among civilizations,

Welcoming also the efforts of the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and of the Group of Eminent Persons established by the Secretary-General,

Expressing its firm determination to facilitate and promote dialogue among civilizations,

Proclaims the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations:

A. Objectives, principles and participants

Article 1

Dialogue among civilizations is a process between and within civilizations, founded on inclusion, and a collective desire to learn, uncover and examine assumptions, unfold shared meaning and core values and integrate multiple perspectives through dialogue.

Article 2

Dialogue among civilizations constitutes a process to attain, inter alia, the following objectives:

- Promotion of inclusion, equity, equality, justice and tolerance in human interactions;
- Enhancement of mutual understanding and respect through interaction among civilizations;
- Mutual enrichment and advancement of knowledge and appreciation of the richness and wisdom found in all civilizations;
- Identification and promotion of common ground among civilizations in order to address common challenges threatening shared values, universal human rights and achievements of human society in various fields;
- Promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and enrichment of common understanding of human rights;

- Development of a better understanding of common ethical standards and universal human values;
- Enhancement of respect for cultural diversity and cultural heritage.

Article 3

Pursuit of the above-mentioned objectives will be enhanced by collective commitment to the following principles:

- Faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small;
- Fulfilment in good faith of the obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- Respect for fundamental principles of justice and international law;
- Recognition of diversified sources of knowledge and cultural diversity as fundamental features of human society and as indispensable and cherished assets for the advancement and material and spiritual welfare of humanity at large;
- Recognition of the right of members of all civilizations to preserve and develop their cultural heritage within their own societies;
- Commitment to inclusion, cooperation and search for understanding as the mechanisms for the promotion of common values;
- Enhancement of participation by all individuals, peoples and nations in local, national and international decision-making processes.

Article 4

Dialogue among civilizations provides important contribution to progress in the following areas:

- Promotion of confidence-building at local, national, regional and international levels;
- Enhancing mutual understanding and knowledge among different social groups, cultures and civilizations in various areas, including culture, religion, education, information, science and technology;
- Addressing threats to peace and security;
- Promotion and protection of human rights;
- Elaboration of common ethical standards.

Article 5

Participation in dialogue among civilizations shall be global in scope and shall be open to all, including:

- People from all civilizations;

- Scholars, thinkers, intellectuals, writers, scientists, representatives of the arts, culture and the media and youth, who play an instrumental role in initiation and sustainment of dialogue among civilizations;
- Individuals from civil society and representatives of non-governmental organizations, as instrumental partners in promoting dialogue among civilizations.

Article 6

Governments shall promote, encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations.

Article 7

Regional and international organizations should take appropriate steps and initiatives to promote, facilitate and sustain dialogue among civilizations.

Article 8

The media has an indispensable and instrumental role in the promotion of dialogue among civilizations and in the fostering of greater understanding among various civilizations and cultures.

Article 9

The United Nations should continue to promote and strengthen the culture of dialogue among civilizations.

B. Programme of Action

1. States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, are invited to consider the following as a means of promoting dialogue among civilizations in all domains, within existing resources and also drawing upon voluntary contributions:

- Facilitating and encouraging interaction and exchange among all individuals, inter alia, intellectuals, thinkers and artists from various societies and civilizations;
- Promoting of mutual visits and meetings of experts in various fields from different civilizations, cultures and backgrounds, which provide an opportunity for discovering commonalities among various civilizations and cultures;
- Exchange of visits among representatives of the arts and culture and the organization of cultural festivals through which people will have a chance of getting acquainted with other cultures;
- Sponsorship of conferences, symposia and workshops to enhance mutual understanding, tolerance and dialogue among civilizations;
- Planning sports competitions, Olympiads and scientific competitions, with a view to encouraging positive interaction among youth from different backgrounds and cultures;

- Reinvigorating and encouraging translation and dissemination of basic manuscripts and books and studies representing different cultures and civilizations;
 - Promotion of historical and cultural tourism;
 - Incorporation of programmes to study various cultures and civilizations in the educational curricula, including the teaching of languages, history and socio-political thoughts of various civilizations as well as the exchange of knowledge, information and scholarship among their academics;
 - Advancement of research and scholarship to achieve an objective understanding of the characteristics of each civilization and the differences as well as ways and means to enhance constructive interaction and understanding among them;
 - Utilization of communication technologies, including audio, video, printed press, multimedia and the Internet, to disseminate the message of dialogue and understanding throughout the globe and depict and publicize historical instances of constructive interaction among different civilizations;
 - Provision of equitable opportunities for participation in the dissemination of information with a view to achieving an objective understanding of all civilizations and enhancing constructive interaction and cooperative engagement among civilizations;
 - Implementation of programmes to enhance the spirit of dialogue, understanding and rejection of intolerance, violence and racism among people, in particular youth;
 - Utilizing the existence of migrants in various societies in bridging the gap of understanding between cultures;
 - Consultation to articulate effective mechanisms to protect the rights of all people to maintain their cultural identity, while facilitating their integration into their social environment.
2. States should encourage and support initiatives taken by civil society and non-governmental organizations for the promotion of dialogue among civilizations.
 3. States, international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, are invited to develop appropriate ways and means at the local, national, regional and international levels to further promote dialogue and mutual understanding among civilizations and to report their activities to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.
 4. Governments, funding institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector are invited to mobilize the necessary resources to promote dialogue among civilizations, including by contributing to the Trust Fund established by the Secretary-General in 1999 for that purpose.
 5. The United Nations system, including the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, are invited to continue to encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations and formulate

ways and means to promote dialogue among civilizations in the activities of the United Nations in various fields.

6. The Secretary-General is requested to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of this Global Agenda and Programme of Action.



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
18 October 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 31
University for Peace

Bolivia, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama and Paraguay: draft resolution

University for Peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/29 of 18 November 1999, in which it recalled that, by its resolution 34/111 of 14 December 1979, it approved the idea of establishing the University for Peace as a specialized international centre for postgraduate studies, research and the dissemination of knowledge specifically aimed at training and education for peace and its universal promotion within the United Nations system,

Recalling also that in its resolution 35/55 of 5 December 1980 it approved the establishment of the University for Peace in conformity with the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace,¹

Recalling further its resolutions 45/8 of 24 October 1990, 46/11 of 24 October 1991 and 48/9 of 25 October 1993,

Recalling that in its resolution 46/11 it decided to include in the agenda of its forty-eighth session and biennially thereafter an item entitled "University for Peace",

Recalling also its resolution 50/41 of 8 December 1995, in which it decided to request the Secretary-General to consider ways of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the University for Peace and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session,

Recalling further its adoption on 13 September 1999 of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace,²

¹ See resolution 35/55, annex.

² Resolution 53/243.



Noting that in 1991 the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme, established a Trust Fund for Peace consisting of voluntary contributions in order to provide the University with the means necessary to extend its sphere of activity to the whole world, taking full advantage of its potential capacity for education, research and support of the United Nations and to carry out its mandate of promoting peace in the world,

Noting with appreciation that the Government of Uruguay, by agreement with the University for Peace, established in 1997 a World Centre for Research and Information on Peace as regional subheadquarters of the University for South America,

Noting also with appreciation the vigorous actions taken by the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and with the encouragement and support of the Government of Costa Rica, to revitalize the University,³

Noting that the University has placed special emphasis on the area of conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peace-building and peaceful settlement of disputes, and that it has launched programmes in the areas of democratic consensus-building and training of academic experts in the techniques of peaceful settlement of conflicts, which is highly relevant to the promotion of universal peace,

Noting also that the University has launched a broad programme for building a culture of peace in Central America and the Caribbean in the context of the efforts being made by the United Nations and by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the development and promotion of a culture of peace,

Noting with appreciation that the University organized a symposium in celebration of the International Year of Older Persons, 1999, at which it emphasized the valuable contribution that older persons can make to the promotion of peace, solidarity, tolerance and the culture of peace,

Recognizing the important and varied activities carried out by the University during the period 1999-2000, within its financial limitations and with the valuable assistance and contributions of Governments, foundations and non-governmental organizations,

Considering the importance of promoting education for peace that fosters respect for the values inherent in peace and universal coexistence among persons, including respect for the life, dignity and integrity of human beings, as well as friendship and solidarity among peoples irrespective of their nationality, race, sex, religion or culture,

Considering that, by its resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997, the General Assembly proclaimed the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace and that it should be ushered in with One Day in Peace, 1 January 2000,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General⁴ submitted pursuant to resolution 54/29 of 18 November 1999, on ways of strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the University for Peace;

³ A/54/312, para. 2.

⁴ A/56/314.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider using the services of the University in his conflict-resolution and peace-building efforts and in the promotion of the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Culture of Peace;²

3. *Invites* Member States, intergovernmental bodies, non-governmental organizations and interested individuals to contribute directly to the Trust Fund for Peace or to the budget of the University;

4. *Invites* Member States to accede to the International Agreement for the Establishment of the University for Peace, thereby demonstrating their support for an educational institution devoted to the promotion of a universal culture of peace;

5. *Invites* Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and all of the peoples of the world to celebrate One Day in Peace, 1 January 2002, and every year thereafter;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "University for Peace".



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
22 October 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 31
University for Peace

Bolivia, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama and Paraguay:
draft resolution

University for Peace

Addendum

Add the following countries to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution:

Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Ecuador, Gabon, Greece, Guyana, India, Ireland, Israel, Madagascar, Malawi, Monaco, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Senegal, Spain, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Venezuela





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
18 October 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 28
Culture of peace

Bangladesh, Benin, Chile, El Salvador and Togo: draft resolution

International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001-2010

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially its dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001-2010 as the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World and resolution 55/47 of 29 November 2000,

Reaffirming the Declaration¹ and Programme of Action² on a Culture of Peace, recognizing that they serve, inter alia, as the basis for the observance of the Decade, and convinced that effective and successful observance of the Decade throughout the world will promote a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration³ which calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World,⁴ including

¹ Resolution 53/243 A.

² Resolution 53/243 B.

³ Resolution 55/2.

⁴ A/56/349.



paragraph 28 thereof which indicates that each of the ten years of the Decade will be marked with a different priority theme related to the Programme of Action,

Taking note also of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/66 of 26 April 2000, entitled "Towards a culture of peace",⁵

Emphasizing the particular relevance of the special session of the General Assembly on children, to be held in New York during the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001, and the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, for the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001-2010,

Taking into account the Manifesto 2000 initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization promoting a culture of peace, which has so far received over seventy-four million signatures of endorsement throughout the world,

1. *Reiterates* that the objective of the International Decade for a culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World is to further strengthen the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Year for the Culture of Peace in 2000;

2. *Invites* Member States to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular during the Decade, at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence is fostered at all levels;

3. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for recognizing the promotion of a culture of peace as the expression of the fundamental mandate of that Organization and requests it, as the lead agency for the Decade, to further strengthen the activities it has undertaken for promoting a culture of peace;

4. *Commends also* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund and the University for Peace, for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;²

5. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its efforts to disseminate in various languages, inter alia, through its national commissions, the Declaration¹ and Programme of Action and related materials, in particular throughout the Decade;

6. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to continue to promote both formal and non-formal education at all levels that foster a culture of peace and non-violence;

7. *Encourages* civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to continue and strengthen its efforts in furtherance of the objectives of the Decade,

⁵ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Supplement No. 3 and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1)*, chap. II, sect. A.

inter alia, by adopting its own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other global and regional organizations;

8. *Encourages also* the involvement of the mass media in education for a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people, including through the planned expansion of the Culture of Peace News Network as a global network of Internet sites in many languages;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue the communication and networking arrangements established during the International Year for providing an instant update of developments related to the observance of the Decade;

10. *Invites* Member States as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to provide information to the Secretary-General on the observance of the Decade and the activities undertaken to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Culture of peace".



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
29 October 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session

Agenda item 25

United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

Iran (Islamic Republic of): draft resolution

United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

The General Assembly, recalling its resolution 55/23 of 13 November 2000, in which it decided to devote two days of plenary meetings at the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, on 3 and 4 December 2001, to the consideration of the item entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations", decides to convene the plenary meetings devoted to the item entitled "United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations" on 8 and 9 November 2001.





General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
29 October 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 26
Follow-up to the outcome of the
special session on children

Draft resolution submitted by the President

Special session of the General Assembly on children

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/26 of 20 November 2000, in which it decided to convene the special session of the General Assembly for follow-up to the World Summit for Children from 19 to 21 September 2001, and to refer to it as the "special session on children",

Recalling also its decision 56/401 of 12 September 2001, by which it decided to postpone the special session of the General Assembly on children to a date to be decided by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session,

1. *Decides* to convene the special session of the General Assembly on children from 8 to 10 May 2002;
 2. *Decides also* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-seventh session an item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children".
-

